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"DOCTOR WHO"
SERIAL 6D

EPISODE 1: 'Snake Dance'

by

Christopher Bailey

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"DOCTOR WHO" - EPISODE 1: 'Snake Dance'

CAST:

THE DOCTOR
TEGAN
NYSSA
AMBRIL
LON
TANHA
DUGDALE
THE HAWKER
THE FORTUNE TELLER

N/S:

PEOPLE IN MARKET PLACE
BODYGUARD
DOJJEN (SNAKE DANCER)

ANIMAL:

SNAKE

* * * * *

SETS:

Cave Composite:

Ext. Snakemouth Entrance.
Int. Tunnel (with Pictograms)
Int. Main Chamber.

Ext. Market Place (Which includes
Ext. Hall of Mirrors and
Ext. Fortune Teller's Booth)

Int. Tardis Composite:
Console Room.
Companions's Room.

Int. Fortune Teller's Booth.

Int. Lon/Tanha's Suite.

Ext. Amongst the Rocks.

* * * * *

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SUPOSE CAM

Opening
Titles:

1. EXT. AMONGST ROCKS. PRE-DAWN.

(EERIE PRE-DAWN
LIGHT. ROCKS, SCRUB,
STUNTED BUSHES. IN
THE MIDDLE OF A
PATCH OF CRUDELY
RAKED GROUND SITE
SITS DOJJEN, A
SAINTLY RAGGED OLD
MAN.

THE SNAKE DANCER,
CROSS-LEGGED, PERFECTLY
STILL. EYES CLOSED.

STUCK IN THE
GROUND NEARBY,
THE SNAKE DANCER'S
STAFF WITH ONE
FORKED END.

A LIVE SNAKE
TWINES AROUND
IT.

THE CRYSTAL ON A
CHAIN AROUND DOJJEN'S
NECK GLOWS BLUE)

2. INT. TARDIS. (CONSOLE ROOM)

(NYSSA IS STANDING
AT A DATA SCREEN.
BUSY. PUNCHING
UP DATA.

THE COLUMN IS STATIONARY.

THE DOCTOR ENTERS
THROUGH THE DOUBLE
DOORS)

NYSSA: (TURNS) Well Doctor?

THE DOCTOR: It certainly isn't
Earth. When it gets light
we'll take a proper look round.

NYSSA: I'm checking the
co-ordinates now.

THE DOCTOR: Is Tegan still
asleep?

NYSSA: I expect so.

(THE DOCTOR EXAMINES
THE DIALS ON THE
CONSOLE)

THE DOCTOR: No navigational
malfunction?

NYSSA: No, Doctor. At least,
I didn't find one.

THE DOCTOR: It's puzzling
isn't it! Just how did we
get here? Wherever it is we are!

3. INT. TARDIS COMPANION'S ROOM.

(TEGAN,
PEACEFULLY ASLEEP)

4. INT. TARDIS (CONSOLE ROOM)

(NYSSA TURNS TO
THE DOCTOR)

NYSSA: Doctor, listen ...

(READS OFF THE
DATA SCREEN)

'Planet G139901KB in the
Scrampus System. Local name;
Manussa. Type 314S. Inhabited.
Atmosphere 98% Terran Normal.
Gravity 96% Terran Normal.'

THE DOCTOR: At least we can
breathe the air, I suppose
that's something. But what are
we doing here? The co-ordinates
were set for Earth.

NYSSA: There's more.
'Third planet in the Federation
System. Status: Colony.
Former Homeworld: Manussan
Empire. Destroyed. Former
Homeworld: Sumaran Epire.
Destroyed. Present Economy:
Subsistence Agriculture, and
Tourism.'

THE DOCTOR: (INTERRUPTS)
Former Homeworld?

NYSSA: Manussan Empire.

THE DOCTOR: The other one?

- 1/6 -

NYSSA: Sumaran Empire.

THE DOCTOR: (URGENT) This is serious. Someone has been playing around. Who did set the co-ordinates?

NYSSA: (PUZZLED) You did. (?)

THE DOCTOR: No! (SUDDENLY REALISES)
Of course! Earlier I was trying to reach both of you to read the star charts. Now one of you actually read out the co-ordinates for me to set. Who was it?

NYSSA: I can't remember.

THE DOCTOR: Was it Tegan?

NYSSA: It might have been.

THE DOCTOR: Was it?

NYSSA: (RELUCTANT) I think so. She obviously made a mistake.

THE DOCTOR: No. It would be an impossible coincidence. A simple mistake is just what it couldn't have been!

(NYSSA IS
BEWILDERED)

- 6 -

5. INT. TARDIS. COMPANION'S ROOM.

(TEGAN SLEEPS
ON.

HER FACE, SHE
STIRS FITFULLY.
SHE IS DREAMING.

SUPER AND MIX THROUGH)

6. EXT. OUTSIDE CAVE ENTRANCE. NIGHT.

(THE DREAM TEGAN,
SMALL, IN FRONT
OF AND FACING THE
SNAKE MOUTH CAVE
ENTRANCE. RED
INSIDE.

SHE MOVES TOWARDS
IT. AS IF DRAWN.
SLOWLY.

JUST INSIDE SHE
STOPS, SUDDENLY AND
UNACCOUNTABLY AFRAID.

SHE TURNS TO LOOK
AT SOMETHING TO ONE
SIDE. SCREAMS.

MIX BACK TO:)

7. INT. TARDIS. COMPANION'S ROOM.

(TEGAN'S FACE,
EYES OPEN, AWOKEN
FROM NIGHTMARE.
SHE SCREAMS)

8. INT. TARDIS. (CONSOLE ROOM)

(THE DOCTOR AND
NYSSA HEAR THE
SCREAM)

THE DOCTOR: Come on!

(THEY RUSH OUT)

9. INT. LON/TANHA'S SUITE. DAY.

(CU MARA-SNAKE
STATUETTE WITH
CRYSTAL IN ITS
MOUTH. IT STANDS
ON THE TABLE.

LON COMES OUT OF
HIS ROOM. HE IS
IN HIS EARLY TWENTIES.
THE INDULGED SON OF
THE FEDERATOR OF THE
THREE WORLDS. DEEPLY
BORED AND SPOILT.

CRAVES EXCITEMENT
AT ANY COST. JUST
WOKEN UP.

REGISTER BODYGUARD
STANDS JUST INSIDE
THE DOOR. IMPASSIVE.

LON IDLY PICKS UP
THE STATUETTE AND
LOOKS AT IT. HE
CONTINUES TO FIDDLE
WITH IT UNTIL HE
THROWS IT TO AMBRIL
IN SCENE 16)

10. INT. TARDIS. COMPANION'S ROOM.

(TEGAN SITS BOLT-
UPRIGHT. STARING
EYES. WOKEN FROM-
NIGHTMARE SHOCK.

NYSSA GOES TO HER.
THE DOCTOR HANGS
BACK IN THE DOORWAY,
ASSESSING, WATCHING)

NYSSA: Tegan!

TEGAN: (CONFUSED) ... What?

NYSSA: What's the matter?
What happened?

TEGAN: It was the dream.

THE DOCTOR: (SHARPLY) The
dream? What dream?

TEGAN: I ... I can't remember.
I can never remember.

THE DOCTOR: (URGENT) But
you've had the dream, this
particular dream before.

(NYSSA UPSET
AT HIS TONE)

NYSSA: Doctor!

THE DOCTOR: (IGNORES HER) Haven't
you?

- 1/13 -

TEGAN: Yes.

THE DOCTOR: Always the same dream?

TEGAN: Yes ... I think so.
The images fade so quickly.

THE DOCTOR: But the same feelings of fear remain ?

(TEGAN NODS)

NYSSA: Doctor, stop it.
(TO TEGAN) It doesn't matter.
You're awake now. It was only a dream.

TEGAN: No. It wasn't.
Somehow.

(NYSSA TURNS TO
THE DOCTOR)

THE DOCTOR: She means it wasn't only a dream. And I fear she could be right.

- 13 -

11. INT. LON/TANHA'S SUITE. DAY.

(LON SPRAWLS ON
THE COUCH. LANGUID
WITH BOREDOM,
NEGLIGENTLY TOYING
WITH THE STATUETTE.

TANHA COMES IN,
FROM HER ROOM.

SHE IS IN HER EARLY
FORTIES. A PLEASANT,
IF PRIVELEGED, WOMAN.
DEEP DOWN IRKED BY
THE RESTRICTIONS OF
BEING THE FEDERATOR'S
WIFE.

SILLY WHERE HER
SON IS CONCERNED.

TANHA SEES LON,
SHE'S SURPRISED)

TANHA: Lon, you're not dressed!
(NO REACTION) Ambril will
be here in a minute. He's
going to show us round the
Caves. Had you forgotten?

LON: No, mother, I had not
forgotten.

TANHA: Well then. We must
make the effort. Don't you
think?

LON: Must we?

TANHA: Of course we
must.

- 1/15 -

LON: Why?

TANHA: It's expected of us.
You are the Federator's son.
Come on, what's wrong?

LON: The Federator's son
is bored.

12. INT. TARDIS. (CONSOLE ROOM)

(THE DOCTOR COMES IN
FOLLOWED BY NYSSA
WITH TEGAN)

THE DOCTOR: Now then, Tegan.
Where are we?

TEGAN: (BEWILDERED) What?

THE DOCTOR: Where are we?
It's a simple question.

TEGAN: Aren't we on earth?

THE DOCTOR: No, we should be.
But we're not. So ...?

TEGAN: How should I know?

THE DOCTOR: Think!

NYSSA: Doctor!

THE DOCTOR: (MORE GENTLY)
Please Tegan. Think. Try
and reach into the back of
your mind.

TEGAN: (SURPRISED) Are we on
Manussa?

THE DOCTOR: Good.

NYSSA: But?

TEGAN: (TO DOCTOR) Are we?

THE DOCTOR: Yes we are.

TEGAN: (ALMOST TO HERSELF) But
however did I know that?!

THE DOCTOR: Manussa. Formerly
Homeworld of the Sumaran Empire.
The Su-Maran Empire. Which
may or may not ring a bell.
Does it, Tegan? The Su-Maran
Empire.

(IT DOES. HER
FACE)

13. INT. LON/TANHA'S SUITE. DAY.

(AS BEFORE)

TANHA: I agree Ambril can be rather trying. On the whole, you know, I preferred his predecessor. Who was completely dotty. But much more fun!

LON: It's not just Ambril mother. It's all of it. The Ceremony and everything. It's all such nonsense isn't it!

TANHA: Is it?

LON: Of course it is. And all so long ago. Do you realise the Destruction of the Mara happened 500 years ago? And yet we're still celebrating it. Why?

TANHA: It's only every ten years.

LON: It occurs to me that the whole thing is kept going solely to remind the people here how much better life is under the rule of the Federation.

TANHA: And so it is!

LON: Is it?

TANHA: Don't be silly. Of course it is. The rule of the Mara was gruesome beyond belief. (cont....)

TANHA: (cont) I mean look ...

(INDICATING
THE STATUETTE)

... it's grotesque. You
should really take more
interest in our legends.

LON: (YAWNS) Why?

TANHA: It's part of our culture.
Who was the Director before
Ambril? The dotty one! He
was a firm believer. And in
the Legend of the Return.

LON: Am I now supposed to take
the ramblings of a mad man
seriously-

TANHA: He didn't ramble.

LON: (EMPHATICALLY) The Mara
was destroyed, not banished
to another dimension. It will
not return 'in a dream' or in
any other way.

TANHA: If you say so?

LON: I think I just have.

TANHA: But it made a good story.
My hair quite stood up on end.
(MORE PERKY) ... Ambril's
predecessor was rather good value,
you know. Even when he was
talking nonsense.

14. EXT. AMONGST THE ROCKS. DAY.

(DOJJEN IS SEATED
AS IN SCENE ONE)

15. INT. TARDIS. (CONSOLE ROOM)

(THE DOCTOR PUTS
THE FINISHING
TOUCHES TO A JURY-
RIGGED DEVICE FOR
HYPNOTISING TEGAN.

A SMALL BOX (VARIABLE
SOUND SOURCE) AND
UNOBTRUSIVE EAR-
PIECE ATTACHED)

NYSSA: Is this necessary?

THE DOCTOR: (HEAD DOWN.
SOLDERING) Yes. We must
recover Tegan's dream. And
simple hypnosis is the quickest
way.

NYSSA: But why must we?

THE DOCTOR: Dreams are
important Nyssa. Never
underestimate them! A man
once fell asleep and dreamt
he was a frog. When he woke up,
he didn't know whether he was
a man who had dreamt he was
a frog. Or a frog who was
now dreaming he was a man.

NYSSA: I don't understand.

TEGAN: (STILL SMALL VOICE) I do.

NYSSA: Do you?

TEGAN: (FLAT) I'm still possessed, aren't I, Doctor. The Mara from the world of the Kinda is still inside my head somewhere, isn't it?

THE DOCTOR: We'll have to see.

TEGAN: (STILL FLAT) But you think so?

THE DOCTOR:(MEETS HER EYE) I'm afraid it does seem likely. I'm sorry.

TEGAN: But where?

THE DOCTOR: Obviously, below the threshold of conscious thought. I would guess that when awake your mind is still strong enough to resist. But in sleep, it loosens its grip, and the battle is joined.

TEGAN: In my dreams?

THE DOCTOR: Yes.

TEGAN: The battle for what?

THE DOCTOR: For control. (THE DEVICE IS READY) Come over here.

(TEGAN DOES SO)

NYSSA: (OF COURSE) That's why you mis-read the co-ordinates.

THE DOCTOR: It must have happened when your mind was weak. The Mara must have seized temporary control ...

NYSSA: And what?

THE DOCTOR: Brought itself home.

TEGAN: (SIMPLY) What do I have to do?

(THE DOCTOR
HANDS OVER DEVICE)

THE DOCTOR: Insert the earpiece, try to relax, and when switched on, listen to the sound.

(TEGAN DOES SO)

16. INT. LON/TANHA'S SUITE. DAY.

(AS BEFORE. TANHA
LAUGHS REMEMBERING)

TANHA: He was full of the
most extravagant theories!

LON: Who was?

TANHA: Oh ... you know? Him.
Ambrill's predecessor. He
thought that the only people
who knew the truth about
the Mara were the Snakedancers.
Once, he even took us to
visit them. Up in the hills.
Miles from anywhere. It
was all wildly unofficial.
We went in disguise. Imagine
your father in disguise!
Even then!

LON: And did they?

TANHA: What?

LON: 'Know the truth'?

TANHA: Who could tell!
It was so dark, and they were
so dirty, it was hard to be
sure. They were frightful.
All covered in ash. And
nearly naked. They lived entirely
on roots and berries and
things. And put themselves
into trances. It was all quite
disgusting. But rather fun.
They handled live snakes I
remember.

LON: Why?

TANHA: Oh, their religion I expect.

LON: What did father think?

TANHA: (DEFLATED) The Federator, as usual, was not amused.

(KNOCK ON
THE DOOR)

Come in.

(AMBRIL ENTERS.

HE IS IN HIS
FIFTIES. A
FASTIDIOUS,
VAIN AND DEEPLY
COMPLACENT ACADEMIC.
A MANUSSAN
OXFORD DON)

AMBRIL: Good morning,
my lady Tanha.

TANHA: Good morning.

AMBRIL: Are you ready?

(TANHA INDICATES
THAT LON IS
NOT DRESSED)

TANHA: I'm afraid not quite.

AMBRIL: I beg your pardon.
In that case we will - (WITHDRAW)

TANHA: (STOPS HIM) No no. Stay here please. My son can dress quite quickly.

LON: (NOT MOVING) ... What's this?

(HOLDS UP STATUETTE
HE HAS BEEN
FIDDLELING WITH)

AMBRIL: That, my lord? A small token. In honour of your presence, deputising for your father. I trust you approve.

TANHA: Thankyou.

AMBRIL: Exquisite isn't it!

LON: Is it a fake?

AMBRIL: No no. An original my lord. One of a pair. From my collection. It's 800 years old. A piece from the middle Sumaran period. I ... er ... (VANITY) I unearthed it myself.

LON: Did you?

AMBRIL: Yes.

LON: Here then! Catch!

(THROWS IT TO
AMBRIL)

AMBRIL: (PANIC) No!

(CATCHES STATUETTE.
RECOVERS HIS POISE)

Where was I?

LON: (GETS UP) Who knows!
Who knows where you were!

(HE SAUNTERS OFF,
THROUGH THE DOOR
(INTO HIS ROOM,
TO GET DRESSED))

TANHA: You must forgive my son.
He's young.

AMBRIL: Of course, my lady.

TANHA: I'm sure he doesn't
mean to be rude.

17. INT. TARDIS COMPANION'S ROOM.

(TEGAN, HYPNOTISED,
IS ON HER BED)

THE DOCTOR: Where are you?

TEGAN: Here!

THE DOCTOR: Where's here?

TEGAN: On Deva Loka. The
Kinda world.

(THE DOCTOR AND
NYSSA EXCHANGE
GLANCES)

THE DOCTOR: (CALMLY) What
are you doing on Deva Loka?

(TEGAN C.U. A PAUSE
THEN JUMBLED)

TEGAN: ... 'It's horrible. Was
that thing inside my head? ...
If you must know I climbed a
tree and dropped apples on his
head ... No, I will never
agree to what you ask ...
But Doctor am I free of the
Mara now? Forever? Doctor
am I?'

THE DOCTOR: (CALMLY. V.O.)
Go deeper Tegan. Much deeper.
(cont ...)

(TEGAN'S FACE RELAXES
AND SHE SMILES)

THE DOCTOR: (cont) Where
are you now?

TEGAN: In my garden, stupid.
Everything grows in my garden.
People always come back. They
go away. I close my eyes and
want them to come back. And
they do. It always works. I
can tell lies too. And people
don't always notice. So I'm
safe here.

THE DOCTOR: How old are you?

TEGAN: I'm nearly six, stupid.

THE DOCTOR: Tegan, now you
must leave your garden -

TEGAN: Oh why?

THE DOCTOR: - and go deeper
still. Deeper and further.
Much further.

(HE WAITS)

Can you hear me? Now I want
you to go into the dream.

TEGAN: (STIFFEN. TERROR)
No!

THE DOCTOR: (CALMLY) Why not?

TEGAN: Because I mustn't.

18. EXT. MARKET PLACE (OUTSIDE MIRROR HALL). DAY.

(DUGDALE, IN THE
MIDDLE OF HIS
FAIRGROUND SPIEL.
TRYING TO ATTRACT
PASSERS BY INTO
HIS HALL OF MIRRORS.
THE ENTRANCE TO
WHICH IS A CRUDELY
PAINTED CARTOON
LAUGH/WINKING
SNAKEMOUTH.

PEOPLE MILLING ABOUT.
EASTERN BAZAAR FEEL.
THE CROWD, THE STALLS
AND STALLHOLDERS.
THE HUBBUB, THE
JOSTLE. IGNORING
DUGDALE)

DUGDALE: (PLOUGHS ON) - What
about you sir? Madam? Step
this way if you would be so kind.
I invite you to take the most
exciting journey of all. The
voyage Inside. The journey to
meet yourself. I address you
in the silence of your own
hearts. I offer my personal
challenge. Dare you bear
witness to what the Mara shows!
Dare you to gaze upon the
Unspeakable! Dare you come
face to face with the finally
Unfaceable. Children half
price.

19. INT. TARDIS COMPANION'S ROOM.

THE DOCTOR: Tegan, you're quite safe. You must go into the dream. (WAITS) Where are you now?

TEGAN: Snake mouth. Cave. Out ...

THE DOCTOR: Out where?

TEGAN: Outside. I'm outside. I'm being fed this image.

THE DOCTOR: Go in.

TEGAN: No. Mustn't.

THE DOCTOR: Go into the cave. You must go inside. It's very important. We must know what's inside. (WAITS) Where are you now?

TEGAN: Inside. It's dark. Darker than dark.

(GREAT DISTRESS,
SHUTTING EYES)

Something in here! Over there!
Mustn't look! Mustn't ever look!
I'm safe if I don't look!

THE DOCTOR: Tegan -

TEGAN: No!

THE DOCTOR: Tegan you're quite safe. You must look. We need to know what is there.

(TEGAN OPENS HER
EYES WIDE. LOOKS
TO ONE SIDE)

TEGAN: (MARA-VOICE, HARSH,
TERRIBLE) Go away!

(Note: When a person
is possessed by a
Mara, a snake design
is seen on the victims
arm, while the eyes
and mouth become red
and inflamed; the
timbre of the voice
also lowers.)

Because Tegan is still
in a state of flux -
her own personality
is able to break
through from time to
time - she has yet
to develop the
above symptoms)

20. EXT. MARKET PLACE (OUTSIDE MIRROR HALL). DAY.

(THRONGS THRONGING.

LON, TANHA AND
AMBRIL MAKE THEIR
WAY WITH DIFFICULTY
THROUGH THE CROWD.

THE BODYGUARD
ACCOMPANYING JUST
BEHIND, IMPASSIVE)

AMBRIL: (BEING JOSTLED) It's
not far now, my lady.

TANHA: I'd forgotten the crowds.

AMBRIL: (BEING JOSTLED) I
think it would perhaps be
better if we retraced -

TANHA: Nonsense. It's rather
exhilarating. Isn't it Lon?

(LON A BIT APART,
IGNORES HER.
THEY'VE COME INTO
RANGE OF DUGDALE,
SPIELING ON)

DUGDALE: - Step this way
please. Come face to face
with the truth about yourselves.
In the Hall of Mirrors. Come
along please. (cont ...)

(SINGLING OUT LON
AT RANDOM)

DUGDALE: (cont) You sir,
for instance, you.

(LON HALTS)

Now you have the look of a
Humble Seeker after Life's
Truth.

LON: Do I really?

DUGDALE: Of course you do.
If you'd care to step -

LON: Do you know who I am!

DUGDALE: (STOOGING HIM) No
young man! Do tell us! Who
are you?

(THEN SEES TANHA
AND BODYGUARD.

(ADJUSTS HIS MANNER) I beg
your pardon, my lord. (SEES
TANHA) My lady. (AND BODY-
GUARD) I'm sure I didn't mean -

TANHA: (DISMISSES THE INCIDENT)
No, of course.

LON: (STANDS HIS GROUND) So,
what's in there?

(DUGDALE'S BOOTH)

DUGDALE: In ...?

LON: Yes. What exactly does one face in your shoddy little booth?

DUGDALE: Mirrors my lord.

LON: Mirrors!

DUGDALE: Distorting mirrors. That's all. People are amused.

LON: Are they!

DUGDALE: Generally, my lord.

TANHA: Lon. We should go.

(THEY PASS ON.

DUGDALE WATCHES
THEM GO)

21. INT. TARDIS COMPANION'S ROOM.

(THE DOCTOR ADJUSTS
THE SOUND SOURCE,
WITH EARPIECE
ATTACHED)

NYSSA: That voice what was it?

THE DOCTOR: The Mara.
Speaking through Tegan's
mouth.

NYSSA: But what does it want?

THE DOCTOR: That, we're going
to have to find out.

NYSSA: Why hasn't she changed?

(THE DOCTOR LOOKS
PUZZLED)

On Deva loka you said a physical
change took place when possessed
by a Mara.

THE DOCTOR: It did. Which
makes another question requiring
an answer. But first ... Tegan?

TEGAN: Yes.

THE DOCTOR: Have the images
become more vivid with each
recurrence of the dream?

TEGAN: Yes.

THE DOCTOR: And so it will continue as the power of the Mara increases, and your mental resistance weakens. So, for the time being, we must prevent you dreaming altogether.

NYSSA: How?

THE DOCTOR: With this. (THE DEVICE) I've adjusted the frequency to produce a sound that inhibits the production of the brain waves associated with dreaming. (TO TEGAN) Would you like to switch it on? (INDICATES SWITCH)

TEGAN: Then what?

(SHE SITS UP)

THE DOCTOR: We must find the cave, the snake mouth, from the dream.

NYSSA: It's a real place?

THE DOCTOR: Oh yes. I would think almost certainly. And what's more, I would guess it's somewhere nearby.

22. EXT. CAVE ENTRANCE (SNAKE MOUTH).
DAY.

(THE CAVE ENTRANCE.
THE ROCK AROUND THE
ACTUAL MOUTH
SCULPTED INTO A
FEARSOME LIKENESS
OF A SNAKE'S MOUTH,
OPEN, FANGS BARED,
POISED TO STRIKE.

LON RESTS NEARBY,
LOOKING ROUND AT IT,
THEN BACK DOWN THE
BROKEN STONE STEPS,
AND WATCHES AS THE
REST OF THE PARTY
TOIL UP TOWARDS HIM)

22A. EXT. QUIET CORNER IN MARKET PLACE.
DAY.

(THE DOCTOR EMERGES
FROM THE TARDIS
FOLLOWED BY NYSSA
WITH TEGAN)

NYSSA: She's mildly disorient-
ated.

THE DOCTOR: It's the device.
An unavoidable side effect.
She'll be experiencing a
limited distortion of
peripheral vision. And, of
course, a total exclusion of
all outside sound. I'm afraid
it can't be helped.

NYSSA: But does she have to
wear the device now?

THE DOCTOR: Yes.

NYSSA: But it's dangerous.
Tegan isn't used to functioning
without her hearing.

THE DOCTOR: Then you must be
her ears. The danger is far
greater without the device.

NYSSA: But she couldn't dream
now. She's awake.

THE DOCTOR: Dreams are occurring
in the mind all the time.
Asleep and awake. We pay no
attention to the dreams we have
when we're awake. But they're
going on. Just the same.
Come on. We must hurry.

23. INT. CAVE (INSIDE ENTRANCE). DAY.

(AMBRIL AND PARTY
HAVE PAUSED, JUST
INSIDE THE ENTRANCE,
CIRCLE OF DAYLIGHT
BEHIND THEM. QUIET.
LIGHTS FIXED IN
THE CEILING)

LON: (TRYING THE ECHO)
Hello!

(AMBRIL AT HIS
SIDE, PRESSING ON
WITH COMMENTARY)

AMBRIL: It's a natural
geological formation, worn
out of the solid rock over
hundreds of thousands of
years by the action of an
underground river. The
cave system, itself, extends
back into the hillside for
nearly four miles -

LON: Hello!

TANHA: (REPROVING BUT
AMUSED) Lon!

AMBRIL: - The Chamber
of the Mara itself is the
largest natural cavern thus
formed. But many of our
most important archaeolo-
gical finds -

LON: (INTERRUPTING) Big
isn't it?

AMBRIL: Pardon, my lord.

LON: This place. It's big.

AMBRIL: Yes, I suppose it
is.

LON: Isn't it! ... Hello!

24. EXT. MARKET (NEAR MIRROR HALL).
DAY.

(THE DOCTOR, NYSSA,
TEGAN, IN THE
MIDST OF THE NOISE,
THE LIGHT, THE PUSH
AND SHOVE.

TEGAN LOOKS ROUND,
AND ABOUT, CONFUSED)

(THE DOCTOR IS TALKING
TO A PASSER-BY, WHO
THEN STARTS TO INDICATE
DIRECTIONS)

NYSSA: (CHECKING) Tegan.
Are you alright?

(TAPS HER SHOULDER.
TEGAN STARES AT
HER BLANKLY.

REVERSE TO SHOW
NYSSA FROM TEGAN'S
POV. FACE DISTORTED
AT THE EDGES.
SILENTLY MOUTHING.
ONLY THE SOUND OF
THE DEVICE. A STEADY,
OCCASIONAL, BLEEP.
KEEP HER POV AS SHE
TURNS FROM NYSSA,
TO THE PEOPLE AROUND.
FACES, LOOMING,
DISTORTED, INEXPLI-
CABLE. THE SOUND IN
HER EAR.

NYSSA'S POV OF
THE DOCTOR AS A
PASSER-BY POINTS
IN A PARTICULAR
DIRECTION.

THE DOCTOR RETURNS
HER LOOK.

REVERSE TO NORMAL.
MARKET SOUND RESTORED)

THE DOCTOR: (RETURNING.
TO NYSSA) I was right it
seems. There's a cave system nearby tha
fits the description. It's
this way.

(THEY MOVE OFF)

25. INT. CAVE (TUNNEL OUTSIDE MAIN CHAMBER). DAY.

(A CAVE WALL,
COVERED WITH
PAINTED PICTOGRAMS/
HIEROGLYPHS DIVIDED
INTO PANELS.

DISPLAY SPOTLIT.

THE LAST PANEL
BUT ONE FEATURES
A DIAGRAMMATIC
CRYSTAL, ENERGY
LINES FROM THE
STICK HUMAN FIGURES
MEET IN IT. PICTO-
GRAMMIC DEMONS LURKING
IN THE BACKGROUND.

THE PAINT IS AGED,
AND IN PLACES
FLAKING AWAY.

THE LAST PANEL OF
ALL IS BLANK.
SCRATCHED OUT.

WE TAKE A GOOD
LOOK AT THE WALL,
PANEL BY PANEL.

MUCH OF AMBRIL
VOICE OVER)

AMBRIL: This wall, at the entrance to the Chamber of the Mara, constitutes an invaluable record of the Sumaran period. Of course, academic interpretating as to the precise meaning do differ, and we can thankfully discard the more fanciful of these. But, by paying scrupulous attention to detail, and not allowing our imagination to run away with us, (cont...)

AMBRIL: (cont) we may be able to gain the glimmering of an idea as to what the pictograms may mean.

(THE BLANK PANEL)

LON: What about the Legend of the Return?

AMBRIL: The ...?

LON: Well, do you have an opinion?

AMBRIL: Yes, my lord, I'm rather afraid I do.

LON: Well?

AMBRIL: The legend of the Return is nonsense.

(LON SMILES AT
TANHA)

Pure superstitious nonsense. Invented by the common people simply to give themselves something to frighten their children with. It has no basis, either speculative or proven, in historical fact.

26. EXT. CAVE ENTRANCE (SNAKEMOUTH).
DAY.

(THE DOCTOR, NYSSA,
AND TEGAN HAVE
REACHED THE TOP OF
THE STEPS. THEY
LOOK AT THE CAVE-
MOUTH.

TEGAN, FROZEN,
TERRIFIED)

THE DOCTOR: Extraordinary
isn't it!

NYSSA: (NOTICING TEGAN)
Doctor!

(IN THE BACKGROUND,
TWO OR THREE PEOPLE
HANGING ABOUT,
INCLUDING THE
HAWKER WHO'S
RESTING AGAINST
ROCK WITH HIS TRAY
OF TOY SNAKES ON
STICKS)

THE DOCTOR: (TURNING) What?
(NOTICING) Tegan! Of course!
That is the place
she's seen in her dream.
(GENTLY) There's nothing to
be frightened of. Come
along. (TAKES HER ARM)

TEGAN: (PULLING AWAY) No.

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NYSSA: Doctor. Remember.
She can't hear you.

(TEGAN LOOKS UP
AT THE DOCTOR.
HER POV OF THE
DOCTOR, DISTORTED
AT THE EDGES. THE
BLEEP-SILENCE-
BLEEP OF THE DEVICE)

27. INT. CAVE (TUNNEL OUTSIDE MAIN
CHAMBER). DAY.

LON: Nevertheless, your
predecessor apparently
believed in the Legend,
Ambril.

TANHA: Yes. Now, whatever
was the man's name?

AMBRIL: (STIFFLY) His
name, my lady, was Dojjen.

TANHA: Dojjen! That's it.
Of course it was.

28. EXT. CAVE ENTRANCE (SNAKEMOUTH).
DAY.

(TEGAN SITS, CLOSED
UP ON HERSELF, ON
THE TOP STEP, BACK
TO THE CAVEMOUTH)

NYSSA: What are we going
to do? She won't go any
further. She's too frightened.

THE DOCTOR: You must stay
here with her. I'll go on
into the cave alone.

29. INT. CAVE (TUNNEL OUTSIDE MAIN CHAMBER).

AMBRIL: - I'm afraid Dojjen came to believe so many things. He became very erratic towards the end. The real work here was being sadly neglected. It was all in my report to the Federator at the time.

LON: The real work?

AMBRIL: Precisely my Lord.

LON: You mean poking about in the ruins? Digging for trinkets? Classifying things?

TANHA: Lon!

AMBRIL: (SNIFFILY) I have tried to re-establish our studies here on a strictly scientific basis.

TANHA: Yes. And I'm sure we're all very grateful. Aren't we Lon? (SWEETLY) Shall we proceed into the Chamber of the Mara?

30. INT. CAVE(JUST INSIDE ENTRANCE).
DAY.

(THE DOCTOR LOOKS
BACK TO WHERE
NYSSA IS SITTING
WITH TEGAN.

NYSSA WAVES
REASSURINGLY. HE
TURNS AND CONTINUES
INTO THE CAVE)

31. INT. CAVE(MAIN CHAMBER).

(AMBRIL SWITCHES
ON THE DISPLAY
SPOTLIGHTS,
THAT AUGMENT THE
DIM BACKGROUND
CEILING LIGHTS,
AND ILLUMINE THE
STONE MARA IMAGE.

LIT THUS, THE MARA
IMAGE DOMINATES
THE CHAMBER AND
OUR SCREEN - A
HUGE SNAKE CARVED
IN BAS-RELIEF OUT
OF THE CAVE WALL.
AWESOME. HORRIFYING.
BETWEEN ITS BARED
STONE FANGS, AN
EMPTY SOCKET WHERE
THE GREAT CRYSTAL
USED TO BE)

AMBRIL: Exquisite, isn't
it?

LON: What was in its mouth?

AMBRIL: The Great Crystal,
my lord. Purely decorative.

LON: Where is it? Is it
lost?

AMBRIL: No my lord. It
was removed from its socket
when the Mara was destroyed.
Traditionally, its safekeeping
is the responsibility of the
Director.

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LON: You?

AMBRIL: At present I have that honour, my lord ... The image of the Mara is nearly sixteen feet high, and sculpted out of solid rock. It is, as you can see, in the form of a snake. A rearing snake. An imagery indeed that is consistent throughout the middle period of the Sumaran ...

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32. INT. CAVE. (TUNNEL).

(THE DOCTOR MOVES
TOWARDS THE SOUND
OF AMBRIL'S VOICE)

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33. INT. CAVE (MAIN CHAMBER).

(AMBRIL CONTINUES)

AMBRIL: ... with only insignificant variations. In Sumaran 3 period, the hood has a tendency to be marginally less pronounced. But, in general, we may assert -

TANHA: (INTERRUPTING) Oh, do be quiet! Please. Just for a moment. Just look!

(THEY CONTEMPLATE
THE MARA IMAGE
IN SILENCE FOR
A FEW MOMENTS.
EVEN LON IS
IMPRESSED. ONLY
THE BODYGUARD
FACES IMPASSIVELY
FRONT.

THE DOCTOR
ARRIVES. STANDS
CONCEALED, BEHIND
THE ROCK PILLAR,
WATCHING)

(SHUDDERS) It's horrible.
And I must say I'm extremely
glad the Legend of the
Return is only a story.
(cont...)

(TANHA TURNING
TO AMBRIL)

TANHA: (cont) It is?
Isn't it?

(THE DOCTOR STEPS
OUT AND MAKES
TANHA JUMP OUT
OF HER SKIN)

THE DOCTOR: No, I'm afraid
it's not!

(THE DOCTOR IS
GRABBED BY
THE BODYGUARD)

34. EXT. CAVE ENTRANCE (SNAKEMOUTH).
DAY.

(TEGAN SITS ON
THE TOP STEP,
HEAD IN HER KNEES.

NYSSA BESIDE HER,
HANG ROUND HER
SHOULDERS.

THE HAWKER
APPROACHES WITH
HIS TRAY OF TOY
SNAKES, OFFERING
THEM FOR SALE)

HAWKER: Excuse me.

NYSSA: (LOOKING AND REALISING)
No thank you. No, really.
Not at the moment.

HAWKER: Look.

(PERSISTING. HE
DEMONSTRATES HOW
THE TOY SNAKES
WIGGLE ON THEIR
STICKS)

NYSSA: Yes, very good. (cont..)

(TEGAN LOOKS UP.
HER DISTORTED POV
OF THE SNAKE ON ITS
STICK, THE HAWKER'S
SMILING PROFESSIONAL
FACE, THE CAVE
ENTRANCE (SNAKE MOUTH)

TEGAN PANICS.
SENDS NYSSA
SPRAWLING. AND
RUNS OFF DOWN THE
STEPS)

NYSSA: (cont) Tegan!
Tegan!

(NYSSA CHASES
AFTER HER.

THE HAWKER STANDS
BEMUSED)

35. INT. CAVE. MAINCHAMBER.

(THE DOCTOR IS HELD,
FIRMLY, THE BODYGUARD'S
VAST ARM ENCIRCLING
HIS THROAT)

THE DOCTOR: There's no need for
this.

AMBRIL: This is a private view.
You have no business being here.
Have him thrown out.

(THE BODYGUARD LOOKS
TO TANHA, WHO NODS)

LON: Wait!

(THE BODYGUARD WAITS)

At least let the man have his
say.

AMBRIL: What for, my lord? He's
plainly deranged.

LON: Is he?

AMBRIL: Of course he is.

TANHA: Lon. I rather think the
Director should deal with this.

THE DOCTOR: (LOOKING AT AMBRIL)
Director? Director of what?

AMBRIL: (STIFFLY) The research effort into the Sumaran era.

THE DOCTOR: Are you indeed! Then you may be able to help me.

AMBRIL: I think not. (TO BODYGUARD) Throw him out!

LON: Just a moment, Ambril. (LOOKS AT TANHA) It has been suggested that I take more interest in our legends. (TO BODYGUARD) Release him.

(THE BODYGUARD LETS GO OF THE DOCTOR'S THROAT)

36. EXT. THE MARKET. DAY.

(NYSSA HALTS.
IN FRONT OF HER,
LOTS OF PEOPLE.
NO SIGN OF TEGAN.

SHE GIVES UP THE
CHASE AND TURNS BACK)

37. INT. CAVE. MAIN CHAMBER.

LON: (LACONIC) And where, according to you, is the Mara now?

THE DOCTOR: At present, it exists as a latent mental force, in the mind of my companion.

LON: Does it?

THE DOCTOR: It is using her dreams to increase its power. Eventually it would take over her mind altogether. I've rigged up a device to temporarily inhibit this.

LON: How very resourceful!

THE DOCTOR: (URGENT) Look, you can see for yourselves. She's outside now.

AMBRIL: My lord, I must insist ...

LON: (TO THE DOCTOR) Very well. Show us.

AMBRIL: (PROTESTING) My lord!

THE DOCTOR: Certainly. Come with me.

38. MARKET. OUTSIDE FORTUNE TELLER'S
BOOTH. DAY.

(TEGAN FLEEING IN A
PANIC THROUGH THE
PEOPLE.

FRIGHTENED AND
CONFUSED. THE PUSH
AND SHOVE.

SHE CAN MAKE NO
FURTHER PROGRESS.

NOTE THE FORTUNE
TELLER IN THE
DOORWAY OF HER BOOTH.

TEGAN STANDS, OUT
OF BREATH, LOOKING
ROUND, AT BAY.

HER POV OF THE
PEOPLE AROUND HER.
FACES GETTING MORE
AND MORE DISTORTED.
THE BLEEP-SILENCE-
BLEEP.

SHE LOSES
CONSCIOUSNESS, AND
KEELS OVER)

39. INT. CAVE. JUST INSIDE ENTRANCE.
DAY.

(THE DOCTOR AND
LON COMES TOWARDS
THE CAVE MOUTH.

THE OTHERS FOLLOWING.

NYSSA RUNS TOWARDS
THEM)

THE DOCTOR: Nyssa!

LON: Is this your companion?

THE DOCTOR: (IGNORING HIM)
Nyssa, what's the matter?

NYSSA: Doctor she's gone.

THE DOCTOR: What?

LON: (TO THE GALLERY) She's
gone. Apparently.

THE DOCTOR: (TO NYSSA) Where?

NYSSA: She took fright. It all
happened so quickly.

LON: You've disappointed me, er,
'Doctor'. I should have you
punished.

(THE DOCTOR CONCERNED
ONLY WITH TEGAN)

THE DOCTOR: Come on.

(THE DOCTOR AND
NYSSA RUN OUT
OF THE CAVE.

THE BODYGUARD LOOKS
TO LON)

LON: No. No. Let them go.
Why not! What would be the
point!

40. INT. FORTUNE TELLER'S BOOTH. DAY.

(DARKNESS.
BLEEP-SILENCE-
BLEEP.

TEGAN OPENS HER
(OUR) EYES, TO
SEE THE FORTUNE
TELLER - A FRIENDLY
OLD FRAUD - BENDING
OVER HER/US. MOUTHING
SOOTHING WORDS TEGAN/
WE CAN'T HEAR.

THE FORTUNE TELLER
REALISES, REACHES
AND TAKES THE EARPIECE
FROM TEGAN'S EAR)

FORTUNE TELLER: (ABRUPTLY CAN
BE HEARD) - better isn't it!
You can hear me now.

TEGAN: (WEAKLY) No. I must
not take it off.

FORTUNE TELLER: Whyever not!

(TAKING THE WHOLE
BOX AND LOOKING
AT IT)

What is it anyway? What does
it do?

TEGAN: I can't ... I can't
remember. I mustn't ...
That's all ...

(TEGAN LOOKS ROUND
THE TINY BOOTH.

SCARVES/LAMPSHADES
ETC. CRYSTAL BALL
ON A PLINTH TO ONE
SIDE)

TEGAN: (cont) Where am I?

FORTUNE TELLER: You passed out.
They brought you in here. Are
you feeling better?

TEGAN: (VERY CONFUSED) Yes ...
Am I? ... And why mustn't I?

(SHE LOOKS AT THE
DEVICE WHICH THE
FORTUNE TELLER IS
HOLDING)

41. EXT. MARKET. DAY.

(THE DOCTOR AND
NYSSA COME TO A
HALT.

WHICH WAY TO GO?
AND ALL THE PEOPLE!)

THE DOCTOR: It's hopeless.
We'd never find her amongst
all these people. She could
be anywhere. ... What state
was she in?

NYSSA: She was terrified.

THE DOCTOR: (AN IDEA) It's
possible she would go back to
the Tardis. Isn't it! Come
on.

(THEY MOVE OFF)

42. INT. FORTUNE TELLER'S BOOTH. DAY.

(TEGAN VERY CONFUSED.
TRYING TO MAINTAIN
A GRIP ON REALITY)

TEGAN: ... Who are you?
Please?

FORTUNE TELLER: I see into the
future. I expect it was all the
people.

TEGAN: (CONCENTRATING) I ...
expect ... it ... was ... all ...
the people ...

FORTUNE TELLER: (NOT NOTICING)
That's it. Of course it was.
It's easy to get confused in
crowds. Anyway I'm glad you're
feeling better.

TEGAN: (CONCENTRATING) In that?
(SHE MEANS CRYSTAL BALL)

FORTUNE TELLER: In what?

(TEGAN, LOOKING AT
THE CRYSTAL BALL)

TEGAN: Do you see the future
in that?

FORTUNE TELLER: Yes ... Well,
between you and me, not really,
I don't! I pretend. I flutter
my fingers, gaze deep into the
ball and ...

TEGAN: Then?

FORTUNE TELLER: Then I make something up. Whatever comes into my head. Whatever I think they want to hear. After all, they're paying.

TEGAN: (CONCENTRATING) Do you?

FORTUNE TELLER: It does no harm. Mind you, it's surprising what does come into your head. Sometimes, I surprise myself.

TEGAN: ... Is it?

FORTUNE TELLER: What?

TEGAN: (DESPERATELY CLINGING ON) ... Is it ... surprising ... what ... is it ...

FORTUNE TELLER: (ALARMED) What's the matter? What's wrong?

(TEGAN LOSES THE MENTAL BATTLE. HER EYES ROLL UP, LIDS FLITTERING, THEN HER EYES OPEN WIDE)

TEGAN: (MARA-VOICE) Is it!

(POINTS AT CRYSTAL BALL, IMPERIOUSLY)

Well, look now!

43. INT. TARDIS. CONSOLE ROOM.

(THE DOCTOR AND NYSSA
BURST IN. THE ROOM
IS EMPTY)

THE DOCTOR: (CALLS) Tegan!

NYSSA: Where can she be?

THE DOCTOR: So long as she's
wearing the anti-dreaming device
she should still be safe.

NYSSA: And if she's not ...?

THE DOCTOR: I don't know. I
just don't know. Why has the
Mara returned to its home
planet? Why now? After so
long? What does it want?

44. INT. FORTUNE TELLER'S BOOTH. DAY.

TEGAN: (HARSH) Look now!

(IN THE CRYSTAL BALL,
THE MARA SIGN - THE
SKELETON OF A SNAKE'S
HEAD WITH MOVING,
ARTICULATED LOWER JAW -
APPEARS, GROWS STARTS
TO CLARIFY.

AS A MOMENTARY CUT
AWAY SHOT WE SEE
DOJJEN SEATED AMONGST
THE ROCKS.

THE SNAKE CLARIFIES
IN THE CRYSTAL BALL.

THE FORTUNE TELLER
SCREAMS.

THE CRYSTAL BALL
SHATTERS IN SLOW MOTION)

SUPOSE CAM

End
Credits:

FADE OUT